

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Town of Orwell, Vermont

For the Year Ending
December 31, 2021



Courtesy of James Pollowitz

Please have the report on hand for the
informational meeting on Feb. 22 ♦ 6:00 p.m.

Town of Orwell Voting
♦ Tuesday, March 1, 2022 ♦ 10:00 a.m. ♦

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FIRE/FIRST RESPONSE - 911

VT STATE POLICE - 911 or 802-388-4919

Animal Control – Rebecca Heibler – 802-349-3116 *** **Health Officer** – Kent Anderson – 802-948-2156
Forest Fire Warden - Allen R. Alger, Sr. – 802-948-2212

IMPORTANT ORWELL DATES

FEBRUARY 22, 2022
(FEBRUARY 24, 2022)
FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Informational Town Meeting-Virtual-6:00p.m.
Rain Date for Info Town Hearing (any technical difficulties)
SVUUSD Annual Informational Meeting-5:30p.m.
Fair Haven High School Band Room
Town Meeting Australian Ballot Voting-10:00 a.m. to 7:00p.m.

MARCH 1, 2022

MARCH 11, 2022

Rabies Clinic at the Orwell Fire House
5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. Please call 802-948-2032
Dogs can be licensed at this clinic

APRIL 1, 2022

ON OR BEFORE - 2022 DOG LICENSE REQUIRED

April 30, 2022

Liquor/Tobacco Licenses expires

May 7, 2022

M-F 8 to 2pm/Sat 8 to 1pm

Green-Up (No Clean Up Day)
Hazardous Waste Center at ACSWMD in Middlebury
Business hazardous waste by appointment 802-388-2333 x222

May 29, 2022

Orwell Memorial Day Parade

2022 Report for Mount Independence State Historic Site

497 Mount Independence Road Orwell, Vermont (802) 948-2000

www.historicsites.vermont.gov/mount-independence

\$6.00 for adults, free for children under 15

As of the time of this Orwell Town Report, it is hoped that the opening day for the Mount Independence State Historic Site will be Saturday, May 28, 2022. If all goes well, the site will be open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Tuesdays through Sundays, through October 10. Thank you to those of you who supported the site in 2021. Many people enjoy being able to walk the trails all year.

The site hopes to have some special programs, including guided walks and lectures. Please check event listings later at www.historicsites.vermont.gov or www.mountindependence.org. Or call the site at 802-948-2000 after it opens.

When the site does open, remember that if you are a Mount Independence Coalition member you receive free admission to Mount Independence and all other Vermont State-owned Historic Sites. See www.mountindependence.org for information. Holders of Green Mountain Passports also receive free admission—available for all Vermont veterans and those 62 from your Town Clerk's office for a one-time \$2.00 fee.

May 28: Opening Day, 10:00 a.m.

- ❖ 8:00 a.m. is the "Early Bird Nature Walk" with Sue Wetmore. Meet in front of the museum, wear walking shoes, and bring your binoculars if you have them. Plan on spending the morning on this delightful walk.
- ❖ June 4: National Trails Day Guided History Walk.
- ❖ Details to be determined.
- ❖ June 11 and 12: Vermont Days Weekend.
- ❖ Free admission at the Vermont State Historic Sites and day use State Parks.
- ❖ September 3 and 4: Soldiers A-top the Mount Living History Weekend.
- ❖ Reenactors will be encamped at the site for this annual program. Please note that Sunday's offerings may be limited.

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

PROPERTY TAXES DUE

PLEASE PAY TOWN TREASURER AT THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ORWELL

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March 1, 2022

Town Meeting Polls will be open
10:00 am to 7:00 pm
Orwell Town Hall

Orwell Voters,

By vote of the Orwell Select Board on January 10, 2022, as authorized by the Vermont Legislature in S.172 (Act 77) all voting, for all Town Meeting business for 2022, will be done by Australian ballot.

No Town Meeting assembly will be held on March 1, 2022.

- An Informational Hearing for the Orwell Town Meeting business will be on:

February 22, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

(Due to any technical difficulties an alternative meeting date will be February 24, 2022 @ 6:00 pm).

Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88030971140>

Or by calling: 1-929-205-6099 Use Meeting ID # 880 3097 1140

(Or click on the link on the Orwell website homepage @ townoforwellvt.org)

Questions addressing the Articles for the Informational Hearing can be submitted through the Orwell email address @ tckorwel@sover.net or by calling 948-2032 **prior to the meeting.**

- The Town Meeting warning is printed in the Annual Report and will also be posted on the Orwell Town Clerk's website.

The Annual Report will be mailed to Orwell households before February 18, 2022.

If you did not receive one please call the Orwell Town Clerk's office @ 948-2032.

- The March 1, 2022 ballots will include:

Candidates for Local Offices and **all** Town Meeting Articles. Sample ballots will be posted in the community, along with the Town Meeting warning and the voter checklist.

Absentee ballots can be mailed upon voter's request and for those who would rather vote in person on March 1, 2022, this is still an option, from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm at the Orwell Town Hall. **Masks are required in all school buildings which includes the Orwell Town Hall.**

Auditors' Report

Jan 31, 2022

The undersigned, Auditors of the Town of Orwell, Vermont, have examined the accounts and reports of the various town officers and organizations for the 2021 calendar year. We declare them to be correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

The financial statements submitted herewith represent fairly the financial positions of the Town of Orwell for the year ended December 31, 2021. The Town of Orwell prefers to operate on a cash rather than an accrual basis. To the best of our knowledge there are no outstanding expenses or receipts unaccounted for.

The reports and projects presented by various social service agencies have been accepted as is without further consideration or inspection. Copies of the various agency reports are available at the Town Clerk's office.

2021 was another year full of changes and challenges for everyone. Officers and the people of the town adjusted and adapted to the continuing pandemic, certainly the most unique of times for us all. Citizens of Orwell will continue to rise to this challenge. We thank all the people who have helped make our town government work! Stay well, stay safe!

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Michel
Karen Rowland
Robin Severy

Auditors, Town of Orwell



Courtesy Robin Severy

TOWN OFFICERS 2021

MODERATOR	Michael R. Audet
TOWN CLERK	Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
TOWN TREASURER	Bryan S. Young
TOWN AGENT	
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS	Bryan S. Young
SELECTMEN	
Robert Barnes - 2 year	Term Expires 2022
Dave Larsen - 3 year (Resigned in 2021)	Term Expires 2022
Andrea Ochs - 3 year (Appointed in 2021)	Term Expires 2022
Rex D. Corey - 3 year	Term Expires 2023
Bill Goddard - 2 year	Term Expires 2023
Thomas Audet - 3 year	Term Expires 2024
AUDITORS	
Theodore Michel	Term Expires 2022
Robin Severy	Term Expires 2023
Karen Rowland	Term Expires 2024
LISTERS	
Stephen James	Term Expires 2022
Cheryl Tudhope	Term Expires 2023
Jean Audet	Term Expires 2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
Emily Casey	Term Expires 2022
Regina Charron	Term Expires 2022
Joan Osterhautd	Term Expires 2022
Virginia Wilson	Term Expires 2023
Karen DeMoy	Term Expires 2023
Rae Anne Barry	Term Expires 2024
Loretta Lee	Term Expires 2024
Anna "Kathy" Buxton	Term Expires 2025
Cindy Werner	Term Expires 2026
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	
Stephen Buxton	Term Expires 2022
Stephen James	Term Expires 2023
Joanne Hornbeck	Term Expires 2024
Diane Jackson	Term Expires 2025
Jeff Wachelka	Term Expires 2026

FIRST CONSTABLE			Allen R. Alger
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR			Sandy Korda
DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR			Robert G. Arnebold
ASSIST. TOWN CLERKS			Sharon Macedo Susan Ann Arnebold
ASSIST. TREASURER			Mark S. Young
TAX COLLECTOR			Bryan S. Young
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR			Diane Jackson
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE			
Glen Cousineau	Richard O. Buxton, Jr.		Walker James
Michael R. Audet	Stephanie Corey		
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR			Wayne L. Weseman
ASSIST. ZONING ADMINISTRATORS			Roland "Ted" Simmons Thomas J. Purdy, Sr.
LIBRARIAN			Kate Hunter
LIBRARIAN'S ASSISTANTS			Heather Ewing Michelle Goddard Ramona Akpo-Sani
HEALTH OFFICER			Kent Anderson
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR			Edward Tracey
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER			Sean Seguin Rebecca Heibler
TREE WARDEN			Allen M. Alger
ORWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF			Dan Gosselin
FIRST RESPONSE RESCUE SQUAD			Peter W. Ochs
PLANNING COMMISSION/DRB MEMBERS			
Robert Bogdan, Chair	Dave King	Stephanie Corey	Joe Andriano
Sharon Macedo, Sec.	Dave Larsen	Ken Carpenter, Vice Chair	Rex Corey
Carter Mealey	Devon Duquette		

WARNING

TOWN OF ORWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Legal Voters of the Town of Orwell, Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet remotely on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 6:00 PM, for an Informational Hearing on the following business:

Virtually connect by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88030971140>
(or click on the link on the Orwell website home page @ townoforwellvt.org)
Or by calling: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID # 880 3097 1140

The Hearing shall then be closed to Tuesday, March 1, 2022, between the hours of 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM, at the Orwell Town Hall, for the purpose of voting upon the following Articles of business:

1. To Elect all Town Officers, required by law, as follows by Australian Ballot:

1 Town & School Moderator for one year	Michael R. Audet
1 Town Clerk for one year	Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
1 Town Treasurer for one year	Bryan S. Young
1 Trustee of Public Funds for one year	Bryan S. Young
1 Select Person for three years	Andrea Ochs
1 Select Person for two years	Gary Murdock
1 Auditor for three years	
1 Lister for three years	
1 Library Trustee for five years	Emily Casey
Library Trustee for five years	Sarah Harris
1 Library Trustee for five years	Amy Buxton Torrey
1 Cemetery Commissioner for five years	
1 Delinquent Tax Collector for one year	Diane Jackson
1 First Constable for one year	Allen R. Alger

2. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the Town Officers report submitted by the Auditors?
3. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc?
4. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate **\$15,000.00** for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2022?
5. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate **\$2,000.00** for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library?
6. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate **\$200.00** for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2022 maintenance costs?
7. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate **\$2,200.00** for the 2023 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee?

8. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate **\$750.00** for the Sixty-Plus Club of Orwell, funds to be used to defray the costs of operating said club for the Senior Citizens of the Town of Orwell.
9. Shall the Town of Orwell vote to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 10, 2022, by delivery to Treasurer postmarked on or before that date?
10. Shall the Town of Orwell vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date?
11. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2023, per 17 VSA §2640? (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 7, 2023.)
12. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the proposed 2022 Town Budget in the amount of **\$1,236,684.83**, of which **\$800,319.47** shall be raised by taxes and **\$436,365.36** by non-tax revenues?
13. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell accept the proposed 2022 Sewer Budget in the amount of **\$94,131.49**, such amount to be raised by user rents and dumping fees?
14. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Parent/Child Center **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support classes, transportation, infant care, and family education services used by town residents?
15. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc. **\$1,500.00**, funds to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents?
16. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for H.O.P.E., Inc. **\$1,750.00** funds to be used to help defray part of the cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing and other essential items?
17. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Women Safe, Inc. **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support their mission to work toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change?
18. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. **\$5,000.00**, funds to help defray costs for providing home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay? (\$1,650.00 in 2021).
19. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program **\$320.00**, funds to support RSVP?
20. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Tri-Valley Transit (formerly ACTR) **\$775.00**, funds to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities, and the general public?
21. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Readers, Inc. **\$350.00**, funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under five years of age?
22. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Restorative Justice Services Inc. (formerly ACCD) **\$740.00**, funds to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record?

Signed and dated at Orwell, Vermont on this 28 day of January 2022.

Orwell Select Board

Thomas Audet, Chair

Rex Corey

Rex Corey

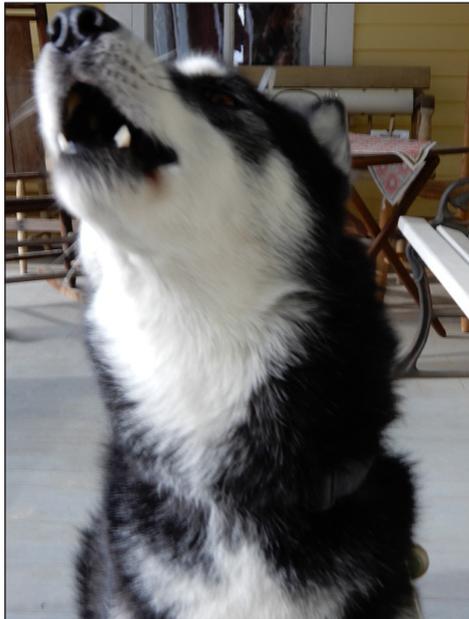
Robert Barnes

Bill Goddard

Bill Goddard, Vice Chair

Andrea Ochs

Andrea Ochs



Courtesy of Ted Michel

NOTICE TO VOTERS

For Local Elections

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by **January 30, 2022**. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by **February 19, 2022**.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to olvr.sec.state.vt.us.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at mvp.sec.state.vt.us. The latest you can request ballots for the **Town Meeting Election** is the close of the Town Clerk's office on **Monday, February 28, 2022**. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the town clerk's office before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerks office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

ON ELECTION DAY:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new registration form.

- 1 If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

If you are a first time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

NO PERSON SHALL:

- 1 Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- 1 Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- 1 Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- 1 Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- 1 Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS:

- Go to the entrance checklist table.
- Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice.
- Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- An election official will give you a ballot.
- Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc."

- To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for.
- **WRITE-IN** candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

IF YOU SPOIL YOUR BALLOT ask an Election Official for another ballot.
The limit is three ballots

CHECK OUT:

- Go to the exit checklist table and state your name in an audible voice.
- Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

CAST YOUR VOTE by depositing your voted ballot in "Voted Ballots" box.

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

Thank you for you help.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth "Betty" Walker, Town Clerk
Sharon Macedo, Assistant Town Clerk



Courtesy Ted Michel

ABSTRACT OF GRAND LIST

2021 Tax Rate

Total Listed Value of Real Estate \$ 152,329,000.00
TOTAL GRAND LIST \$ 1,523,290.00

VOTED AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXES

Wright Memorial Library \$ 15,000.00
Orwell Free Library 4,000.00
St. Paul's Cemetery 200.00
Orwell Parade Committee 2,200.00
Land Purchase (Year 1 of 2) 13,000.00
Gazebo 20,000.00
Select Board Budget 675,618.97
End of Life Services, Inc. 500.00
Age Well 1,000.00
Elderly Services, Inc. -
Parent Child Center 1,250.00
Counseling Service of Addison County 1,500.00
H.O.P.E. 1,750.00
Addison County Women Safe, Inc. 1,250.00
Addison County Home Health & Hospice 1,650.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program 320.00
Tri-Valley Transit 775.00
Addison County Readers, Inc. 350.00
Addison County Restorative Justice Services 370.00
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter 1,000.00

TOTAL TAXES TO BE RAISED BY TOWN \$ 741,733.97

TAX RATE = $\frac{\text{AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAX BILLING}}{\text{TOTAL GRAND LIST}} = \frac{741,733.97}{1,523,290.00} = 0.4870$

Municipal Rate Set by Select Board = 0.4870

STATE SET HOMESTEAD TAX RATE = 1.4567

STATE SET NON-RESIDENTIAL RATE = 1.6332

Grand List 2021 1,523,290.00
Grand List 2020 1,502,045.00
Grand List 2019 1,496,963.00

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young, Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL
2021 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

Balance December 31, 2020	\$	94,866.92	
Agency of Natural Resources		7,227.58	
ARPA Recovery Fund		181,597.56	
Beer & Tobacco Licenses		140.00	
Better Back Roads Grant		10,920.00	
Book Restoration Fees		6,515.00	
Borrowings			
Line Items		13,000.00	
Tax Anticipation		207,500.00	
Collector/Collected Taxes		113,921.19	
Penalties		9,108.65	
Warrant Interest		11,279.36	
Copier Fees		2,650.25	
Current Use Recording		647.00	
Dog Licenses		3,172.00	
Clerk Fees		19,476.00	
Grant Receipts- ARPA		2,000.00	
Grant Receipts- Library Summer Program		22,463.41	
Interest Income		14.92	
Miscellaneous Income		272.46	
PILOT Payment State Property		4,999.00	
Reappraisal Payment- State		778.00	
Refunds		727.00	
Rental Income, Old Town Garage		2,400.00	
Speed Control		2,592.00	
State Highway Aid		148,265.28	
State Hold Harmless		80,380.00	
Tax Adjustments- State, School		30,168.81	
Tax Receipts Total		2,479,897.64	
Zoning Fees		5,145.00	
Tax Paid Slate Valley USD			1,885,677.56
Payment of Borrowings			321,475.75
Payment of Select Board Orders			945,846.48
Line Items Paid			59,848.32
Bank Fees			29.00
Balance December 31, 2021			249,247.92
	\$	3,462,125.03	\$ 3,462,125.03

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL
SCHEDULE OF INDEBTEDNESS 2021**

	Balance 12/31/20	Borrowed	Paid	Balance 12/31/21
<u>Town of Orwell</u>				
Fire Truck	340,200.00	-	37,800.00	302,400.00
Town Truck	\$ 62,683.50	\$ -	\$ 31,341.75	\$ 31,341.75
Town Pickup Truck	17,334.00	-	17,334.00	-
Library Roof	27,500.00	-	27,500.00	-
Land Purchase	-	13,000.00	-	13,000.00
Tax Anticipation 2021	-	207,500.00	207,500.00	-
<u>Sewer Fund</u>				
Lagoon Project	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 83,717.52	\$ -	\$ 433,717.52

**TOWN OF ORWELL
RESERVE FUNDS 2021**

Reappraisal Fund

Balance December 31, 2020	\$ 56,716.88	
2021 State Payment Received	6,613.00	
Interest Income	215.89	
Balance December 31, 2021		\$ 63,545.77
	\$ 63,545.77	\$ 63,545.77

Book Restoration Fund

Balance December 31, 2020	\$ 3,205.61	
2020 Fees Received	4,387.00	
Interest Income	43.13	
Balance December 31, 2021		\$ 7,635.74
	\$ 7,635.74	\$ 7,635.74

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Trustee of Public Funds

**TOWN OF ORWELL
2021 PAYROLL**

General

Ramona Akpo-Sani	\$	3,257.00	
Allen R. Alger		120.00	
Joseph Andriano		54.00	
Jean Audet		1,868.50	
Thomas Audet		1,750.00	
Robert Barnes		1,500.00	
Robert Bogdan		325.00	
Rex Corey		1,662.50	
Stephanie Corey		162.50	
Heather Ewing		2,278.13	
Michelle Goddard		720.00	
William Goddard		1,500.00	
Rebecca Heibler		850.40	
Kate Hunter		26,011.00	
Diane Jackson		9,813.50	
Stephen James		971.25	
David Larsen		1,500.00	
Sharon Macedo		25,663.75	
Theodore Michel		555.00	
Thomas Purdy		150.88	
Karen Rowland		711.00	
Robin Severy		619.75	
Cheryl Tudhope		4,439.38	
Elizabeth Walker		53,992.50	
Wayne Weseman		1,801.63	
Bryan Young		23,821.47	
Mark Young		1,000.00	\$ 167,099.14

Library Summer Program

Angela Allard		2,365.00	
Chicory Greene		1,237.50	
Kate Hunter		1,867.50	
Jenna Laslocky		4,500.00	
Jason Rasco		4,320.00	\$ 14,290.00

Highway

Allen M. Alger		71,833.41	
Benjamin Alger		43.75	
James Booska		705.51	
Peter Parent		56,197.14	\$ 128,779.81

Sewer

Diane Jackson		187.46	
Edward Tracey		18,280.00	\$ 18,467.46

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

Orwell Select Board Report 2021

Road Maintenance and ditching again continued into 2021. Orwell did not receive a State Grant for paving; therefore, the paving was limited to a short distance on Vermont Route 73 and a few spots on North Orwell Road. This was the 2nd year without a State Paving Grant. We continued to do ditching projects this year on Knox Hill Road. A \$10,920.00 grant reimbursement was received toward this project.

The Select Board's attention turned to Vermont Route 22A. We joined with the other towns of Shoreham and Benson in a letter campaign to the State Highway District Officials and to Governor Phil Scott. Our combined energies focused on the unsafe conditions and long overdue attention to upgrading this highway. We think this effort paid off. A stretch of Vermont Route 22A from West Haven to Orwell, will be resurfaced this spring. However, the more extensive improvements will not be scheduled until 2025/2026!

Our vote last year on the Gazebo has led to the formation of a Town Green Committee. They are studying the Town Green & Gazebo in a larger context with other needs of the Town Center. As their plans come together, we will be using Town funds matched with Grant money to achieve future needs. Look forward to an enhanced Town Green, featuring a new Gazebo in the center of it all.

Our survey late fall was intended for townspeople to give direction on major issues facing the town. UTV/ATV traffic on our town roads needs to be addressed. The results of the survey showed:

ARPA CATEGORIES	1-Most Important	2-Important	3-Neutral	4-Not Very Important	5-Least Important	Blank				
Investments in water/sewer/stormwater infrastructure	27	26	25	8	16	1				
Investments in parks/recreation spaces (i.e., Town Green, 22A Ballfield)	9	48	27	12	4	2	Where is Money that was voted on? 1			
Investments in digitization of land records for the Town Office	5	27	46	13	9	2	Why 1			
Investments in broadband (i.e., Maple Broadband)	66	15	11	2	8	1				
UTV/ATV	YES	NO		Neutral		Yes and No	No Comment	Not Sure	I Guess So	Farm Work
	30	60		1		3	5	2	1	1

Total of 530 Surveys sent out

Separate Letters not
counted in Survey

4

Total of Surveys returned 103

Letter Attached to Survey

2

The other issue is how the Town is to prioritize The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds spending. There are restrictions. The survey listed a few areas that these funds can be used. We have until of 2024 to allocate the money and 2026 to spend.

The Vermont Route 22A Ballfield's ownership has been returned to the Town from the school system. Now all maintenance costs and improvements will be done with Town Funds. However, this gives the Town sole governance of the field. We look forward for ideas concerning its future uses with the possible formation of a new committee to organize and operate it. There are funds included in the 2022 Budget to achieve these needs.

Again, we need to recognize the efforts of so many volunteers and people who give their time and talents to make our community so vibrant. There is always room for another volunteer or candidate for any of our community endeavors. Feel free to come forward.

Respectfully submitted by the Orwell Select Board:

Thomas Audet, Chair
Robert Barnes

Bill Goddard, Vice Chair
Rex Corey

Dave Larsen till 6/2021
Andrea Ochs (appointed)

****GREEN UP DAY IS SATURDAY MAY 7, 2022****

MANY THANKS TO ALL the Green Up helpers for 2021

Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young - another great job of service for Orwell

The Select Board cannot succeed with this project without your help.

In order to keep our Town looking beautiful, we continue to need volunteers for the 2022 Town-wide and State Road-side cleanup.

**This Year Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young will be glad to sign you up for Green Up/Road Side Day.
Sign up sheet will be at Buxton's Store.**

TOWN OF ORWELL - INCOME

CATEGORY	2021 <u>BUDGET</u>	2021 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2022 <u>BUDGET</u>
Balance forward General Fund	94,866.92	94,866.92	67,650.36
Agency of Nat'l Resc-F&W	6,000.00	7,227.58	6,500.00
Beer /Tobacco Licenses	140.00	140.00	140.00
Better Roads Grant	0.00	10,920.00	0.00
Book Restoration Fees	1,000.00	6,515.00	4,500.00
Borrowings - Tax Anticipation	0.00	207,500.00	0.00
Borrowings - Line Items/Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clean-up Day	0.00	0.00	0.00
Copier Fees	2,000.00	2,650.25	2,000.00
Current Use Rel/App Recordings	400.00	647.00	400.00
Delinquent Penalties	0.00	9108.65	0.00
Delinquent Tax Collected Past Yrs	75,000.00	78,056.33	75,000.00
Delinquent Tax Current Yrs	0.00	35,864.86	0.00
Delinquent Tax Interest	7,000.00	11,279.36	7,000.00
Dog Fees/Kennel	4,000.00	3,172.00	3,500.00
Fees	10,000.00	19,476.00	10,000.00
First Response and Fire Grant	0.00		0.00
Grand List- Act 60-Reappraisal State	775.00	778.00	775.00
Grant-Library Summer Program	0.00	22463.41	0.00
Grant - ARPA	0.00	2000.00	0.00
Interest Income	0.00	14.92	0.00
Legal Settlement	0.00		0.00
Lister Training	0.00		0.00
Misc. Income	0.00	272.46	0.00
Pilot Payment	5,000.00	4,999.00	5,000.00
Refunds	0.00	727.00	0.00
Rent, Old Town Garage	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Sale of Equipment	0.00		0.00
Sheriff Contract	7,500.00	2,592.00	5,000.00
State Highway Aid	134,000.00	148,265.28	134,000.00
State Hold Harmless Payment	85,000.00	80,380.00	85,000.00
State Paving Grant	0.00		0.00
Tax Adjustment w/State, School	22,000.00	30,168.81	25,000.00
Tax Receipts	675,618.97	547,371.76	800,319.47
Zoning Fees	2,000.00	5,145.00	2,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,134,700.89	1,335,001.59	1,236,684.83
* ARPA Income	0.00	181,597.56	0.00
* ARPA Income Carry-over	0.00	0.00	181,597.56
* Not Allowed To Reduce Tax Dollars			

TOWN OF ORWELL - EXPENSES					
			2021	2021	2022
CATEGORY			BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Ambulance			25,000.00	25,000.00	12,500.00
Animal Control			1,000.00	728.39	1,500.00
Ball Field			0.00	0.00	4,500.00
Bank Service Charge			60.00	29.00	60.00
Better Back Roads Exp			0.00	0.00	0.00
Borrowings - Tax Anticipation			0.00	207,500	0.00
Borrowings - Line Items/Capital			0.00	0.00	0.00
Cemeteries			15,000.00	15,000.00	18,000.00
Clean-up Day			100.00	100.00	100.00
Dues and Fees			16,000.00	16,669.10	18,000.00
Election Fees			250.00	250.00	450.00
Emergency Services Dispatch			2,000.00	4,176.00	5,500.00
Fire Truck	Principal		37,800.00	37,800.00	37,800.00
	Interest		8,505.00	8,761.31	7,560.00
Fire Department					
	ACFA/VSFA Dues		600.00	553.00	600.00
	American Tower Rent		1,100.00	1,057.43	1,100.00
	Building Maintenance		12,000.00	882.58	5,000.00
	Electricity		1,300.00	1,632.25	1,300.00
	Equip Vehicle Repair		10,000.00	4,911.79	10,000.00
	Equip Purchase		10,000.00	13,748.56	12,000.00
	Fire Extinguisher		500.00	0.00	500.00
	Heat-Propane		2,000.00	1,815.11	2,000.00
	Hose Test		4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Hydrant & Pond Maint		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Insurance		9,665.00	9,665.00	8,257.00
	Radio Repair		1,500.00	0.00	8,500.00
	Sewer Rent		300.00	300.00	318.00
	Telephone		400.00	278.75	400.00
	Training		1,000.00	190.69	1,000.00
	Turnout Gear - 3 sets		7,500.00	9,480.85	9,000.00
	Total Fire Department		62,865.00	44,516.01	64,975.00
First Response					
	American Tower Rent		1,100.00	1,057.33	1,100.00
	Building Maintenance		500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Dues		200.00	80.00	200.00
	Electricity		600.00	543.75	600.00
	Equip Vehicle Repair		600.00	50.00	600.00
	Equip Purchase		1,850.00	112.00	1,850.00
	Heat - Propane		2,000.00	1,815.11	2,000.00
	Insurance		1,518.00	1,518.00	1,300.00
	Oxygen		100.00	0.00	100.00
	Personnel - Health		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Radio Purchase		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Radio Repair		1,000.00	0.00	8,500.00
	Sewer Rent		300.00	300.00	318.00
	Supplies		2,400.00	2,894.86	3,000.00
	Telephone		1,200.00	278.71	1,200.00
	Training		1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Total First Response		14,868.00	8,649.76	23,768.00

		2021	2021	2022
CATEGORY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Fuel		20,000.00	21,236.13	25,000.00
Gasoline		1,500.00	3,263.99	3,500.00
GMC Pickup 2017	Principal	17,334.00	17,334.00	0.00
	Interest	511.35	511.36	0.00
Health Insurance		18,000.00	19,157.52	9,727.00
Highway Improvements				
	Chloride	25,000.00	19,085.90	25,000.00
	Contracted Services	25,000.00	14,675.80	25,000.00
	Culverts	10,000.00	8,876.80	8,000.00
	Ditching	2,500.00	950.00	3,000.00
	Ditching Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Equipment Rental	4,500.00	4,600.00	11,000.00
	Gravel	75,000.00	64,369.13	100,000.00
	Paving	60,000.00	58,210.44	80,000.00
	Salt, for Winter	55,000.00	42,347.34	50,000.00
	Sand, for Winter	70,000.00	65,906.59	70,000.00
	Signage/Guard Rails	1,000.00	424.55	1,000.00
	Snow Removal	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Stone	5,000.00	3,947.18	4,000.00
	Training/Other	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Total Highway Improve.	334,500.00	283,393.73	378,500.00
Highway, Equipment Maintenance				
	Shoes,Edge,Plow	5,000.00	3,751.03	5,000.00
	Chains	4,000.00	1,647.90	4,500.00
	Equip Purchase	7,000.00	5,500.00	15,000.00
	GMC Pickup 2017	2,500.00	1,712.98	2,500.00
	Grader	3,000.00	2,464.75	5,000.00
	Loader	4,000.00	668.90	5,000.00
	Mack Truck 2017	10,000.00	11,865.51	5,000.00
	Mack Truck 2019	8,000.00	8,659.16	6,000.00
	Miscellaneous Parts	2,500.00	2,480.43	3,000.00
	Oil, Grease, Filters	3,000.00	4,623.78	4,000.00
	Road Side Mower	6,000.00	4,999.00	5,000.00
	Small Equip Repair	500.00	237.90	500.00
	Sundries	250.00	0.00	400.00
	Tools	1,500.00	772.08	2,000.00
	Wetland Permit	1,800.00	0.00	2,400.00
	Total Equip Maint	59,050.00	49,383.42	65,300.00
Insurance		20,347.00	21,563.00	25,872.00
Interest on Borrowings		4,000.00	2,013.33	4,000.00
Listers				
	Dues	300.00	275.00	400.00
	Education	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Equip Purchase	900.00	215.00	400.00
	Lister Maps	2,000.00	2,500.00	6,000.00
	Postage	250.00	140.38	250.00
	Supplies & Licensing	750.00	845.88	950.00
	Total Listers	4,200.00	3,976.26	8,000.00
Land Purchase Note				
	Principal	0.00	0.00	13,000.00
	Interest	0.00	0.00	404.68
Legal Fees		2,500.00	3,978.80	5,000.00

		2021	2021	2022
CATEGORY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Library Grant Expenses		0.00	7,080.24	0.00
Library Roof Note	Principal	27,500.00	27,500.00	0.00
	Interest	640.00	637.39	0.00
Mack Truck Note 2019	Principal	31,341.75	31,341.75	31,341.75
	Interest	1,723.79	1,775.74	861.90
Mileage		500.00	365.23	500.00
Misc. Exp		350.00	136.26	350.00
Payroll (Includes Summer Grant Payroll)		300,000.00	310,168.95	320,000.00
	Payroll Retirement	10,000.00	11,147.95	13,000.00
	FICA + MCARE	22,950.00	23,727.91	25,000.00
	Total Payroll	332,950.00	345,044.81	358,000.00
Planning Commission/DRB		3,500.00	1,112.43	3,500.00
Payroll Discrepancies		0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Appraisal		0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Tax Adjustment		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Street Lights		4,000.00	4,128.64	4,000.00
Sundries/Rental Unit		720.00	720.00	720.00
Sheriff Contract		20,000.00	16,736.62	20,000.00
Town Clock		6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Town Green				
	Bandstand	0.00	1,312.50	18,687.50
	Grounds	1,000.00	0.00	2,500.00
	Maintenance & Improvements	0.00	308.63	8,000.00
	Mowing	2,000.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
	Electricity	215.00	251.63	250.00
Town Garage				
	Electricity	2,100.00	2,042.64	2,100.00
	Heat - Propane	1,500.00	1,608.23	1,600.00
	Repairs	3,000.00	3,997.91	3,000.00
	Sewer Rent	600.00	600.00	636.00
	Waste Removal	720.00	660.00	720.00
	Total Town Garage	7,920.00	8,908.78	8,056.00
Town Office				
	Book Restoration Reserve Transfer	3,000.00	4,387.00	6,515.00
	Book Restoration	500.00	774.08	500.00
	Books - Land Records	1,000.00	942.78	1,100.00
	Books - Microfilm	1,500.00	27.50	1,000.00
	Building Repair	2,500.00	3,274.20	1,500.00
	Copier	2,150.00	1,831.96	2,150.00
	Electricity	1,300.00	1,135.80	1,300.00
	Equipment Purchase	2,000.00	96.00	8,800.00
	Equipment Repair	1,500.00	60.00	1,500.00
	Heat	1,200.00	1,308.22	1,500.00
	Postage	2,000.00	2,259.09	2,500.00
	Sewer Rent	600.00	600.00	636.00
	Supplies	4,000.00	3,186.79	4,000.00
	Telephone	3,200.00	3,168.55	3,200.00
	Total Town Office	26,450.00	23,051.97	36,201.00
Town Report & Ballots		1,500.00	1,060.00	1,500.00
TOTAL ORDERS BUDGETED/PAID		1,136,700.89	1,267,351.23	1,236,684.83
Returned Check				
Borrowings Paid				
Balance 12/31/21			67,650.36	
TOTAL			1,335,001.59	

Town of Orwell
Taxes Billed vs. Collected 2021

Total Taxes Billed	3,005,483.07
Less State Payments	<u>(454,989.98)</u>
Net Taxes Due	2,550,493.09
Less Taxes Collected	<u>(2,456,375.51)</u>
2021 Tax Warrants	94,117.58
Delinquent Taxes Collected	<u>35,864.86</u>
2021 Delinquent Taxes Due as of 12/31/21	58,252.72

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax Report 2021

Tax Year	Balance 12/31/20	Additions	Payments	Balance 12/31/21
2017	7,682.52	-	7,682.52	-
2018	17,306.61	-	12,047.92	5,258.69
2019	17,079.93	-	7,950.94	9,128.99
2020	60,589.95	2,819.65	50,374.95	13,034.65
2021	-	94,117.58	35,864.86	58,252.72
Totals	102,659.01	96,937.23	113,921.19	85,675.05

TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2021

Balance December 31, 2020	\$ 18.22		
Delinquent Taxes Collected	113,921.19		
Warrant Interest Collected	11,279.36		
Penalties Collected	9,108.65		
Savings Interest Earned	9.24		
Payments to Town	134,309.20		
Balance December 31, 2021	27.46		
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">\$ 134,336.66</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: left;">\$ 134,336.66</td> </tr> </table>		\$ 134,336.66	\$ 134,336.66
\$ 134,336.66	\$ 134,336.66		

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson
Delinquent Tax Collector

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax List- December 31, 2021

2018	US Bank and Trust Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 5,258.69
2019	Kenney, Donald US Bank and Trust Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 9,128.99
2020	57 Sanford St, LLC Baker, Ronald & Eric Kenney, Donald US Bank and Trust Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 13,034.65
2021	Baker, Ronald & Eric Cannone, Christopher Cawley Cabin Trust Christian, Shirley Crocker, David Danahy, John & Julie Ewing, Aja Hamilton, Andre Holley, Gregory Kenney, Donald Lamontagne, David & Deborah Legault, Chad Metcalf, Christopher Nazarenko, Peter & Diane Orleans, Brian Phelps, Louis D, IV Rohne, Kyle & Amy Sherman, Leona (Estate) US Bank and Trust Valley Stock Farm LLC Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 58,252.72
	Total	\$ 85,675.05

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector

**TOWN OF ORWELL
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS
2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

Cash and Securities December 31, 2020	\$	149,930.50
Interest Earned in 2020, distributed in 2021		(63.51)
Gain on Eaton Vance Fund		5,843.07
Interest Earnings- Munger Fund		171.60
Perpetual Care Added		1,200.00
Interest Earnings to be distributed in 2022		28.83

Cash and Securities December 31, 2021

Combined CD		
School Fund		2,989.75
Lake View Cemetery		1,000.00
Coates Cemetery		1,084.18
Town- McQuade Fund		214.50
Wright Memorial Library		22,961.25
Orwell Free Library		1,000.00
Mountain View Cemetery		46,741.77
Accrued Unallocated Interest		28.83
Mountain View Cemetery- Munger Fund		29,546.34
Mountain View Cemetery- Eaton Vance		51,543.87

\$	157,110.49	\$	157,110.49
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Dividends Received- Eaton Vance	\$	532.27
Interest Earnings		485.62
Paid to:		
SVUSD for benefit of Orwell School	\$	19.41
Town of Orwell- fbo Lake View Cemetery		6.49
Town of Orwell- fbo Coates Cemetery		7.04
Town of Orwell		1.39
Wright Memorial Library		149.09
Orwell Free Library		6.49
Mountain View Cemetery		827.98

\$	1,017.89	\$	1,017.89
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Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Trustee of Public Funds

**TOWN OF ORWELL
STATEMENT OF THE TOWN CLERK
December 31, 2021**

Dog Registration:	# of Dogs	Fee/dog	Total	
	0	\$7.00	\$0.00	
	266	\$9.00	\$2,394.00	
	0	\$11.00	\$0.00	
	57	\$13.00	\$741.00	
	0	\$17.00	\$0.00	
	0	\$21.00	\$0.00	
Totals	323		\$3,135.00	
			<u>\$37.00</u>	
1 Pet Dealer Permit			\$0.00	\$3,172.00
2 Replacement Tags				\$3,172.00
<i>323 Dogs and 1 Pet Dealer Permit</i>				\$3,172.00
 Money to the Town Treasurer:				
			\$37.00	
1 Pet Dealer Permit			\$1,534.00	
Dog Fees			<u>\$1,601.00</u>	
<i>State Rabies & Spay/Neuter Program</i>				
		Total		\$3,172.00

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
Town Clerk



Courtesy of Ted Michel

Orwell Planning Commission and Development Review Board

2021 Report

The Planning Commission and Development Review Board had an active year. We saw a great deal of turnover this year, with several long-term members departing the board and several Orwellians stepping up to fill these roles. Many thanks to Robert Bogdan, David King, and Dave Larsen for their long service. Ken Carpenter will also be stepping down at the end of his term, and we thank him for all his help as well. We are excited to welcome Carter Mealey and Devon Duquette as our new members.

The main focus of the Development Review Board this year was trying to make the process easier to access for citizens. Given that DRB hearings are quasi-judicial in nature, following the proper procedures and making a case to the board at a hearing is important. This year, the board put together a package to be given to everyone when they request a hearing clearly outlining the procedures and giving them a series of questions to answer that help the DRB reach a decision. We welcome any feedback of ways we can make this process easier on everyone while still following the procedures laid out in the Orwell Land Use Regulations and under Vermont law.

The Planning Commission had two focuses this year. First, we applied for and received a Municipal Planning Grant for the purpose of updating the Town Plan, with a particular focus on the Village Center. More information about this will be coming in the near future—please keep an eye out for communications online and via mail. We need everyone to participate to make sure that the village's future reflects the wishes of the majority of residents. We can only ensure that if we hear from everyone in the town.

Near the end of the year, we began to turn our attention to the Land Use Regulations themselves. In talking to people in the town, we discovered there is frustration regarding some of the regulations. As a Planning Commission, we want to ensure the regulations reflect the vision of the majority of the town. We encourage anyone to bring concerns to us.

Our goals for the coming year are as follows:

1. The Development Review Board will continue to review its procedures and find ways to make the process more accessible while adhering to applicable regulations and Vermont law.
2. The Planning Commission will follow the plan laid out in the Municipal Planning Grant and fulfill its duties under that grant.
3. The Planning Commission will continue to hear concerns about the Land Use Regulations from citizens of Orwell, and investigate potential changes based on that feedback.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph Andriano, Chair

2021 Development Review Board Members:

Joseph Andriano, Chair
Ken Carpenter, Vice Chair
Rex Corey, Member
Stephanie Corey, Alternate

Devon Duquette, Member
Sharon Macedo, Secretary/Member
Carter Mealey, Member

Listers Report 2021

It has been eleven years since The Town of Orwell has done a town-wide reappraisal. The software that we use to calculate property value changes was established in 2010. Many of the properties sold in the last year have sold for substantially more than the assessed value. Some have sold for less. This does not mean the value will change on the Grand List. Changes will occur when there is a change in acreage, or added improvements, such as porches, garages, or added square feet. All taxpayers will be notified of any change of appraisal.

High value sales does not mean that the town will collect more taxes. It means the assessed values are not in tune with the market and the town needs a reappraisal. This will be done in the next few years.

The listers are constantly updating the parcel maps. We are working with a new mapping company from Littleton, N.H. called CAI Technologies.

Due to Covid the listers will do their best to view property improvements from a distance.

Cheryl S. Tudhope, Jean F. Audet, Stephen James

TOWN OF ORWELL ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

2121 REPORT

Zonig Activity of 2021

Permits:

4	New Houses
5	Additions to Houses
14	Garages, Accessory Structure or Additions Thereto
14	Porches & Decks
4	Farm Structures
1	Building Permit Extension
33	Certificates of Compliance
5	Miscellaneous Permits

Denials:

4

Violations of Land Use Regulations:

8

Respectfully Submitted,



Wayne L. Weseman

ORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM



2021 Town Report

“Dedicated to the preservation and presentation of over 260 years of treasures from Orwell’s past for present & future generations.”

2021 kept us running under the radar. Like many public venues that were forced to restrict activities - due in large part to COVID restrictions and lack of staff - we weren’t as publicly active as in years past. Still, we conducted a few intimate group tours, provided research on a good half-dozen genealogical requests, acquired a number donated documents of local historical printed matter, and restored a mid-1800s sleigh - which is now with another on display (both having been made right here in town - over a century ago!)

Volunteers are vital to the life of historical societies and we’re in desperate need of assistance. Interested in collection processing, digital archiving, photography, genealogical research, print and social media promotion, and fundraising? Remember: many hands make for light work! Contact us at: OrwellMuseum@gmail.com

Submitted by Sandy Korda, *Curator*

*Be a part of
a busy hive
of activity!*

WORKERBEES WANTED



Orwell Beekeepers Club ~ in the 1890s

Are you interested in helping
to preserve local history?

IF YOU HAVE THE TIME, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

TOWN OF ORWELL, VERMONT
TOWN MEETING INFORMATIONAL HEARING MINUTES

FOR THE
MARCH 2, 2021 TOWN MEETING

The Select Board for the Town of Orwell held a public Informational Hearing by electronic means on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 6:00 PM to discuss the Australian ballot Articles on the 2021 Town Meeting Warning.

Statement from the Select Board Chair.

As Chair of the Orwell Select Board, we find that, due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Scott as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Addendum 6 to Executive Order 01-20 and Act 92, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

In accordance with Act 92, there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting. However, in accordance with the temporary amendments to the Open Meeting Law, I confirm that we are:

- a) Providing public access to the Information Hearing by an online video conferencing platform with additional access offered through telephone. We are using Zoom for this remote meeting. All members of the Orwell Select Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if desired, participate in this meeting by using the chat function or pressing *6 on a phone when invited to comment or ask questions.
- b) Providing public notice of instructions for accessing the meeting. We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing this meeting, including how to access the meeting using a land line telephone or computer, in our posted meeting agenda. *Instructions have also been provided on the town website at: townoforwellvt.org.*
- c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. If anybody has a problem, please call 948-2032.
- d) Continuing the meeting if necessary. In the event of technical difficulties, this hearing will be continued on February 25, 2021 @ 6:00 PM using the same login information.

Town meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Moderator, Michael R. Audet.

Roll call attendance of the Select Board was taken. Thomas Audet, Chair, Robert Barnes, Rex Corey (Virtual), Bill Goddard, Vice-Chair and Dave Larsen (Virtual) were in attendance.

As per the Warning:

- Article 1. Election of Town Officers. The polls are open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Orwell Town Hall.
No public comment.

- Article 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the Town Officers report submitted by the Auditors?
No public comment.
- Article 3. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc?
No public comment.
- Article 4. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate \$15,000.00 for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2021?
No public comment.
- Article 5. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate \$4,000.00 for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library?
No public comment.
- Article 6. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate \$200.00 for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2020 maintenance costs?
No public comment.
- Article 7. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate \$2,200.00 for the 2022 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee?
No public comment.
- Article 8. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell authorize the purchase of a 1.06 acre piece of property next to the Firehouse, for the purpose of facilitating drainage and run-off issues, in the amount of \$26,000, to be paid for in two years?

Dan Gosselin sent in numerous questions via email. Have there been any complaints from homeowners "down stream" of the water run off? The Select Board shared a concern about the run-off from the salt shed. The Select Board wrote a grant through ACRPC to study the seriousness of the run-off and a solution. Bill Goddard stated that they are trying to be proactive, we have stormwater rules to follow. Thomas Audet stated that the grant received was in the amount of \$15,000. Mike Winslow, ACRPC, put out the proposals. The committee selected the engineering firm Watershed Consultants of Burlington. They have worked with several towns around the State. See attached letter from Andres Torizzo, Principal, Watershed Consulting, in reference to the Orwell Highway Department Stormwater Management Project.

Has the firm provided a report of their study conducted on this water run-off? The study has not taken place yet. Bill Goddard said the firm will make a presentation. Then go over the positive and negative points of each design and choose one. This will take place over the spring and summer.

What is the proposed solution to the water run-off and does this pose some sort of immediate action to fix? If the proposed solution is a sediment pond, what does that cost? What will be the final cost to taxpayers for this project? State permits needed? Will you run into environmental issues when applying for the permit? Safety precautions ...will a fence need to be installed around the pond? Is there maintenance associated with the pond? Who is in charge and will we have to hire someone every year to do this? Thomas Audet stated that these questions are way ahead of the project. This all will be dealt with by the engineering company.

Has the town considered other solutions to the water run-off project? For example the parking lot for the Firehouse/Highway Department desperately needs paving. As part of this Maintenance Project of town property the existing pavement would need to be ripped up and regraded. Could this potentially change the water run-off flow or worse case scenario you now have a pond that no longer has water flowing to it. Bill Goddard stated that the Select Board is interested more in containment. As part of their design work the engineers inquired if the Fire Department would like a newly paved parking lot. What about a new building that would contain our road gravel? This could be a potential solution and containment of your run-off of road gravel that seems to be causing the issue. Bill Goddard replied that as a board we considered a positive solution. The building we are using for salt is an old inadequate State shed and our sand is outside exposed to the rain and snow. We are hoping this company has a proposal to update that which might help with containment. Rex Corey said we hope to build a new salt and sand shed which will have drainage around it and a containment pit. Dave Larsen stated that we hired an engineering firm but it is too early to give an answer to all these questions. We received a grant to do this study and it would be irresponsible not to use it. We will give the results of the study before going any further. Paul Stone stated that in the late 90's they blasted out stone behind the salt shed, so some work was started. Sharon Fletcher said that the Select Board is asking to purchase the land before knowing a plan. Thomas Audet replied that he had talked to the owner of the property, we had until March, and then they were going to put the property on the open market. Part of our solution is being proactive. Bill Goddard stated that the property has opportunities for other uses. This property can house a small shed to store smaller equipment. The electric bill for the Town Garage is around \$10,000 yearly. This could be a potential solar spot to offset this cost. Rex Corey said this is a building lot with sewer accessibility and could have run-off onto this property from the Town Garage area. Dave Larsen agreed stating that this could be a potential liability for the Town. Patricia Dougherty asked if the purchase will allow access to the back of the firehouse? The answer is no, there is only a 100' access into the right-of-way. Dan Gosselin also wanted to know, because the water run-off and property borders Route 73, a State road, if the State has been contacted and if any of this water run-off is their responsibility to fix? Thomas Audet said that the answer to this will come from the engineers. Ted Michel inquired where this parcel of property is. It is to the west of the firehouse building and the driveway of Hannah Brown and Sean Seguin. Sean Seguin asked how the retention pond was going to be handled? Dave Larsen replied that this has not been decided. The engineers will have answers before we would proceed. This is too early to answer. Sean Seguin asked how the Select Board justifies the purchasing of this land while also cutting the gravel budget? Dave Larsen stated that they have re-upped the gravel budget and the property is only available for a short time. Sean Seguin asked if the property owner contacted a local real estate agent in the summer of 2019 to sell that property? Thomas Audet replied that he did not contact the property owner until the summer of 2020.

Article 9. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell authorize the refinancing of \$350,000, into a 20 year note at a 2.25% interest rate, to pay for the improvements that were made to the Sewer Plant in 2019 and 2020?

Patricia Dougherty asked what the state of the Treatment Plant is after the work that was done. Thomas Audet stated that it is in good shape and should be good for at least 15 years and it's always ready for expansion.

Article 10. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to replace the Gazebo on the Town Green at a cost not to exceed \$20,000?

Sharon Fletcher thinks the purchasing of a new Gazebo is a great idea. Will there be enough money to also fix the benches and the picnic tables on the Town Green? Thomas Audet stated that was a good point and yes there should be.

- Article 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 10, 2021, by delivery to treasurer postmarked on or before that date?
No public comment.
- Article 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date?
No public comment.
- Article 13. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2022, per 17 VSA §2640? (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. See Article One.)
No public comment.
- Article 14. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the proposed 2021 Town Budget in the amount of \$1,134,700.89, of which \$675,618.97 shall be raised by taxes and \$459,081.92 by non-tax revenues?
Paul Stone understood that the Gravel Budget was decreased. Thomas Audet said last year the Highway Budget for gravel was \$75,000 but only \$56,000 was used. We are going to try and use gravel from the sides of the road. Rex Corey said we are trying to get gravel out of the ditches and back on the road and get the ditches cleaned out and build the roads back up. Paul Stone doesn't see how that will work. Rex Corey said they are trying to clean the ditches to keep the water off the road.
- Article 15. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the proposed 2021 Sewer Budget in the amount of \$176,743.22, such amount to be raised by user rents and dumping fees?
Paul Stone said he figured the total cost was around \$500,000 and is hoping this will last 20 years as we will be doing this again. Please get this note paid.
- Article 16. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for End of Life Services, Inc. f/k/a Hospice Volunteer Service, **\$500.00**, to be used to provide volunteer care to terminally ill patients in the Town of Orwell?
No public comment.
- Article 17. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Age Well (formerly CVAA) **\$1,000.00**, funds to be used for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation and toll-free Senior Help Line?
No public comment.
- Article 18. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell move to appropriate funds for Parent/Child Center, **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support classes, transportation, infant care, and family education services used by town residents?
No public comment.
- Article 19. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc. **\$1,500.00**, funds to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents?
No public comment.

- Article 20. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for H.O.P.E., Inc. **\$1,750.00**, funds to be used to help defray a part of cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing and other essential items?
No public comment.
- Article 21. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Women Safe, Inc., **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support their mission to: work toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change?
No public comment.
- Article 22. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc., **\$1,650.00**, funds that provides home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay?
No public comment.
- Article 23. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, **\$320.00**, funds to support RSVP in 2021?
No public comment.
- Article 24. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Tri-Valley Transit (formerly ACTR), **\$775.00**, funds to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities and the general public?
No public comment.
- Article 25. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Readers, **\$350.00**, funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under 5 years of age?
No public comment.
- Article 26. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc. (formerly ACCD), **\$370.00**, funds to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record?
No public comment.
- Article 27. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for the John W. Graham Emergency Shelter, **\$1,000.00**, funds to be used to provide shelter, food and services to homeless family and individuals?
No public comment.

Thomas Audet stated that this hearing happened because we have many volunteers and employees with a lot of anxiety and patience and it all started last March/April.

On behalf of the Select Board and the Planning Commission/Development Review Board, I would like to thank Bryan Young who made it possible to continue to have meetings for these boards through 2020, through the use of Zoom that was set up and run by him. Bryan Young attended a lot of meetings in 2020!

We also would like to thank Kate Hunter for managing this Informational Hearing for Town Meeting 2021 tonight. This is her 3rd trial with us.

Also, a special thanks to Betty Walker and Sharon Macedo for fighting their way through so many new regulations, etc. to do this right.

Hearing Adjourned at 6:58 PM until March 2, 2021, for voting of Officers and Articles.

Attest: Elizabeth Walker

Date: March 8, 2021

Orwell Select Board

Thomas Audet
Thomas Audet, Chair

Robert Barnes
Robert Barnes

Bill Goddard
Bill Goddard, Vice Chair

Dave Larsen

Rex Corey



Courtesy of George Macedo

Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility Calendar Year 2021



The Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility has enjoyed another year of permit compliance and excellent treatment of the wastewater entering the facility. The Facility continues to improve in compliance and operations. Proactive and forward thinking by the Select Board/ Sewer Commissioners continues to provide the Facility with the support that allows the Facility to perform at maximum compliance.

The sludge removal from lagoon #1 and the completed aeration/electrical upgrade completed in 2019 set the stage for the final phase of the modernization and efficient operation of the treatment process.

The sludge removal project for lagoon #2 was completed in 2021 further augmenting the treatment process. The Facility and sewer users now enjoy the benefits of the projects conducted over the last few years.

A twenty-year engineering evaluation was completed in December, 2021 and sets forth guidance for future improvements and preventive maintenance projects to further improve the Facility and collection system. This proactive approach continues to insure permit compliance and a quality effluent.

The users of the Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Town in general are fortunate to have a Select Board that supports the efforts to provide a well-maintained Town and Facility. Their commitment to a proactive approach has provided a Facility that the Town can be proud of.

As always the staff of the Wastewater Treatment Facility welcomes visitors and will be more than happy to conduct a tour of the Facility to any interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Tracey

TOWN OF ORWELL - SEWER REPORT

CATEGORY		2021	2021	2022
		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
INCOME				
Balance Forward		2,453.22	2,453.22	17,965.49
Borrowings		105,000.00	83,717.52	0.00
Delinquent Collector Penalty		0.00	194.9	0.00
Delinquent Rents Collected		0.00	3032.31	0.00
Interest - Warrant		0.00	79.85	0.00
Sale of Compressors		0.00	0.00	0.00
User Rents		55,290.00	50,784.99	58,566.00
Dumping Fees		14,000.00	16,646.94	17,600.00
TOTAL INCOME		176,743.22	156,909.73	94,131.49
EXPENSES				
Bank Fees		24.00	24.00	24.00
Evaluation Project		0.00	6,700.00	0.00
Insurance				
	Property & Liability	591.00	591.00	571.00
	Workers Compensation	1,513.00	1,513.00	1,518.00
Laboratory		800.00	860.72	1,000.00
Lab: Sludge Testing		1800.00	2005.00	0.00
Lab: WET Test		2,500.00	2,725.00	0.00
Lagoon Reserve		0.00	0.00	0.00
Loan Payment Principal		21,225.22	0.00	44,208.49
	Interest	9,000.00	4,620.69	7,400.00
Payroll		18,240.00	18,467.46	19,560.00
Payroll expenses		0.00	0.00	0.00
	FICA & MCARE	1,400.00	1,412.76	1,400.00
Postage		150.00	157.95	150.00
Project Costs		105,000.00	83,717.52	0.00
Repairs Building		500.00	300.15	500.00
	Equipment	1,000.00	939.94	1,500.00
	Other	250.00	148.68	250.00
Mileage		250.00	652.96	500.00
Sundries		200.00	248.37	250.00
Supplies Chlorine		800.00	499.40	800.00
	Equipment	1,000.00	728.77	1,000.00
	Lab Chemicals	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Other	100.00	474.85	350.00
Training & License		200.00	324.00	350.00
Utilities, Electricity		10,000.00	11,171.57	12,000.00
	Propane	100.00	660.45	700.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		176,743.22	138,944.24	94,131.49
Balance December 31, 2021			17,965.49	
TOTALS			156,909.73	

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Report 2021

Tax Year	Balance 12/31/20	Additions	Payments	Balance 12/31/21
2018	\$ 360.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 360.00
2019	360.00	-	-	360.00
2020	1,577.01	-	887.01	690.00
2021	-	3,905.01	2,145.30	1,759.71
Totals	2,297.01	3,905.01	3,032.31	3,169.71

TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT SEWER COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2021

Balance December 31, 2020	\$	1.86	
Delinquent Rents Collected		3,032.31	
Warrant Interest Collected		79.85	
Penalties Collected		194.90	
Savings Interest Earned		1.31	
Payments to Town			3,307.06
Balance December 31, 2021			3.17
		<hr/>	
	\$	3,310.23	\$ 3,310.23

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson
Delinquent Tax Collector

**TOWN OF ORWELL- SEWER FUND
2021 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

Balance December 31, 2020	\$	2,453.22	
Borrowings		83,717.52	
Collector/Collected Rents		3,032.31	
Penalties		194.90	
Warrant Interest		79.85	
Dumping Fees		16,646.94	
User Rents		50,784.99	
Lagoon Project Costs			83,717.52
Payment of Select Board Orders			55,226.72
Balance December 31, 2021			17,965.49
<hr/>			
	\$	156,909.73	\$
			156,909.73

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

**Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Rents- December 31, 2021**

2018	US Bank and Trust	360.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 360.00
2019	US Bank and Trust	360.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 360.00
2020	Sherman, Estate of Leona	150.00	
	US Bank and Trust	540.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 690.00
2021	Bickham, William	150.00	
	Brigham, Steven	150.00	
	Danahy, John & Julie	150.00	
	Madison, Danielle	130.01	
	Minyati, Maurice & Solange	13.50	
	Sherman, Estate of Leona	566.20	
	US Bank and Trust	600.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 1,759.71
	Total		\$ 3,169.71

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector



ORWELL FREE LIBRARY
2021 Town Report

Operating the library under the continued COVID-19 pandemic presented challenges. We offered little indoor programming, a real loss for our normal operating structure, and were intentional about library usage and availability. Using the extra hours normally devoted to programming at OFL, we wrote grants, created story time videos with community farmers and professionals, focused on the library collection, offered a 4-week summer camp for Orwell youth, and sought ways to better support and work with community groups.

This year we received over \$33,000 in grant funding. With those funds and in-kind donations, we provided high quality equipment and tech support to the Select Board for the 2021 Virtual Town Meeting Informational Session, increased our wireless internet reach throughout the village green, purchased new patron and staff computers, increased our outdoor outlet availability, and provided 4 weeks of free day camp to Orwell youth in collaboration with Orwell Village School staff.

Summer Camp and the teen and preschool programming (supported by the Summer Matters Grant) gave 72 Orwell children access to quality activities. These events and camps were created to bring children together and give a feeling of hope and support after a year of stress and unknowns. Our camp themes included The Great Outdoors, STEM, Art, Music, & Movement, and Games, Games, Games. Young families participated in outdoor story time events and teens came to the library weekly for pizza and activities. This July was one to be remembered.



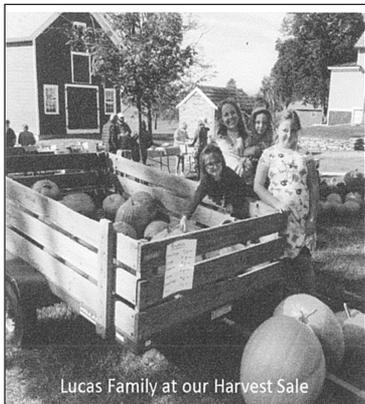
Another offering of note from 2021 is our Virtual Story Time videos, available on our website. We visited sites around Orwell to capture what makes this village special. A heartfelt thanks to our various hosts!

In the spring, Ramona Akpo-Sani stepped down from her position as the library assistant after many years of library service. Ramona worked diligently as a Trustee in the early 2000's writing policies and preparing the library for our online catalog. As the library assistant, she catalogued many titles and welcomed community members into our space for 3 wonderful years. Her leadership in bringing the library into the 21st century is to be commended. Thank you, Ramona.

At the library, we offer:

- free 24/7 WIFI in our parking area and around the town green.
- public computers for use during open hours.

- computer, device, and internet help.
- a meeting place for local groups.
- a public gallery for local artists to display their work.
- access to an online library of informational databases.
- access to online libraries of eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and more.
- a place to donate used, in good condition, books and media.
- new and emerging technologies to experience, like VR.
- a “Library of Things” including an egg incubator, wood moisture reader, projector & screen, Kindle, board games, puzzles and more to borrow.
- Passes to local attractions



Lucas Family at our Harvest Sale

Over the course of a few months, a committee of Library Trustees, Wright Board members, and the librarian created a document that lays out the responsibilities of each board and the procedures for working together. The OFL Board approved the Responsibilities Agreement in September and created a liaison position to aid in communication and future positive outcomes. We all agree, our building in the center of Orwell village is a treasure to be maintained with care.

We thank the community for your enthusiastic support of our biannual sales. The majority of our operating funds are raised during these events.

Orwell Free Library is ever grateful to local taxpayers for their continued support.

2021 Circulation and Usage

Borrowed items: 1821 adult books, 3219 children and teen books, 303 videos, 67 kits and things
 2223 library visits, 813 program participants
 723 items added to the collection



ORWELL FREE LIBRARY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
2021

Opening Balances January 1, 2021

Checking	\$ 2,911.12	
Savings	<u>7,546.08</u>	
Total Opening Balances		<u>\$ 10,457.20</u>

Receipts

Town Appropriation	4,000.00	
Trustee of Public Funds	6.49	
Interest on Savings	12.13	
Grants	9,700.00	
Donations - General & Memorial	2,330.00	
Fundraising:		
Book/Plant/Bake Sales	12,286.00	
Adopt An Author	585.83	
Bottle Returns	1,588.21	
Copier Fees	51.00	
Misc.	275.00	
Purchase Returns	<u>134.30</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>\$ 30,968.96</u>
Total Opening Balances and Receipts		<u>\$ 41,426.16</u>

Disbursements

Books/eBooks/DVDs/CDs	\$ 6,989.13	
Magazines	402.99	
Post Office	250.81	
General Supplies	439.95	
Program Supplies	857.61	
Computer Supplies	400.89	
Kits	188.52	
Electronics/Technology	5,755.99	
Furniture/Equipment	1,069.12	
Programs	50.00	
Librarian/Asst. Librarian Bonus ¹	1,450.00	
Library Memberships	1,340.34	
Advertising	104.78	
Professional Development	63.99	
Misc.	809.35	
Gifts/Donations	<u>142.04</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 20,315.51</u>

Closing Balances December 31, 2021

Checking	\$ 5,907.44	
Savings	<u>15,203.21</u>	
Total Closing Balances		<u>\$ 21,110.65</u>
Total Disbursements and Closing Balances		<u>\$ 41,426.16</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Buxton, Treasurer

GFWC Orwell Fortnightly Club Annual Report 2022

The Orwell Fortnightly Club was founded in 1898. Women of the community came together for friendship, education and literary discussion. In 1904 Fortnightly joined the State Federation of Women's Clubs and in 1905 the National Federation of Women's Clubs. Today our mission is one of service to our community of Orwell through our projects and scholarships.

As all of us have had the shared experience of the ongoing Covid pandemic which caused a shut down in mid March of 2020 the Fortnightly Club did not meet from December of 2019 until October of 2021. We did have Zoom meetings in the Spring of 2021 but club activities were on hold until this fall. This included any fund raising we do to support our community work.

Fortnightly, thanks to community support of our Pet Stocking sale and Bake sale in early December, was able to continue most of our projects. The garden by the Congregational Church was tended and watered by the Fortnightly garden committee. In the past year we continued to support the Whiting Food Pantry, Barbara Jean Barker Scholarship Fund, Hugh O'Brien Youth Scholarship and Mabel Young Music Scholarship.

Along with very generous donations from town businesses and organizations we were able to purchase and hang wreaths in town for the Christmas season.

Many service clubs and organizations have seen declining membership and Fortnightly is no exception. If you would like to find out more about Fortnightly and join us in giving back to our community, join in friendship and the volunteering spirit please contact a member or email Eileen Toomey at toomeyec@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Toomey, President



**Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library
Annual Report 2021**

Balance as of Dec. 31, 2020	\$13,565.45	
		\$13,565.45
Receipts:		
Town appropriations	\$15,000.00	
Trustee of public funds	\$149.09	
Donation	\$4,500.00	
Total receipts		\$19,649.09
Total opening balance plus receipts		\$33,214.54
Disbursements:		
Cleaning & supplies	\$1,040.00	
Telephone/Internet	\$1,149.56	
Sewer	\$600.00	
Insurance	\$2,122.00	
Gadue's Dry Cleaning	\$0.00	
Green Mountain Power	\$1,360.00	
Repair & Maintenance	\$10,004.26	
Fuel Oil	\$1,339.13	
Misc.	\$253.51	
Total disbursements		\$17,868.46
Ending balance as of Dec. 31, 2021	\$15,346.08	\$15,346.08
Total Disbursements and Closing Balance		\$33,214.54

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Martin
Treasurer

Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library

Annual Report 2021

The Wright Memorial Library Board has seen the completion of several projects that have enhanced the appearance, safety, and over-all operation of the building.

Many thanks are owed to George and Jill Helmer and Hamilton Helmer for their continued financial assistance and support of our community library. The Helmer family's generosity has enabled the library to complete many projects over the years.

The board recognizes the support and contributions of local contractors: Mike Dundon, Karl Sbardella, and Wilson Electric.

There are many more citizens who have donated their time, money, and talents in support of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library; you may have noticed Randy Jones taking down a tree on library property, donating his time, expertise and eliminating a hazardous situation. Thank you Randy.

Many of you have seen our latest completed "project": the front porch of our library has been completely refinished from the roof to ground level. Mike Dundon took the lead on this project ensuring preservation of the historical character of the building while meeting necessary safety concerns for patrons and staff.

Karl Sbardella and the Sbardella Roofing team replaced the porch roof at no cost to the library or town. The board is truly grateful for their generosity.

The work is never done and continues even as you read this report. The handicap access ramp is scheduled to be re-finished this spring as well as safety enhancements, installing new lighting for the back porch entrance and exterior painting. Not to mention the day-to-day operations and minor repairs that we are all familiar with ourselves.

The board is looking forward to another busy year, and we thank the Orwell community for its continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Wright Memorial Board Members:

Laura Coro, Co-Chair

Sharon Fletcher, Co-Chair

Robert Martin, Treasurer

Ann Nichols

Thomas Pinsonneault

Orwell Fire Department 2021 Annual Report

Balances, Dec. 31, 2020

Checking	\$8,581.37	
Savings	\$30,417.09	
CD	\$5,474.51	
Sub-Total		\$44,472.97

Income

To Checking

Fund Drive	\$6,580.00
Orwell First Response Reimbursement (P.O. Box)	\$46.00
Truck Accident Donation	\$1,000.00
Transferred from Savings	\$12,400.00

To Savings

Private Donations	\$320.00
Burn Piles	\$175.00
In Memory of (LaDuc, B.)	\$50.00
In Memory of (Fisler, F.)	\$5,000.00
Sale of Old Tool Boxes	\$200.00
Barn Burn	\$400.00
Interest	\$25.88

CD Interest

\$107.94

Sub-Total

\$26,304.82

Beginning Balance + Income

\$70,777.79

Expenses

From Checking

ACFA Meetings	\$60.00
Fundraising	\$760.41
Donations	\$150.00
P.O. Box Rental	\$100.00
Supplies	\$176.19
Supplies-Gas Money	\$152.18
Supplies-Fire Badges	\$229.96
Supplies-Open House	\$149.32
Grant Writer	\$1,500.00
Pressure Washer	\$3,825.00
Purchase of Brush Truck Skid Unit	\$12,400.00
Background Checks	\$60.00

From Savings

Transfer to Checking Acct (Brush Truck Skid Unit)	\$12,400.00
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Sub-Total

\$31,963.06

Balances, Dec. 31, 2021

Checking	\$9044.31*
Savings	\$24,187.97
CD	\$5,582.45

* Check #3910 dated 4/5/2021 for \$30.00 (outstanding)

* Check #3911 dated 5/3/2021 for \$30.00 (outstanding)

Sub-Total	\$38,814.73
Ending Balances + Expenses	\$70,777.79

Respectfully Submitted

Susan M. Hauck

Treasurer

Orwell Fire Dept.

Champlain Large Animal Technical Rescue
c/o Orwell Volunteer Fire Department

January 1, 2021 Opening Balance	343.96
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Interest	.35
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December 31, 2021 Closing Balance	344.31
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Respectfully Submitted

Susan M. Hauck

ORWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 2021 REPORT

Line Officers:

Chief Paul Metcalf
1st Assistant Chief Ben Alger
2nd Assistant Chief Jim Booska

Administrative Officers:

Chairman David Carpenter
Treasurer Susan Hauck
Secretary Jess Krol

Training Officer:

David Carpenter
Susan Hauck

Trustees:

Allen Alger Sr.
Louis Hall
Robert Arnebold

Members:

Seth Gero	Alex Kanksy	Sandy Korda	Jess Krol
Jeremiah Nolan	Peter Ochs	Cian Quin	Sean Sequin
John Wist	Sam St. Peter - Cadet		

2021 Calls

9 MVA Calls	9 Fire Calls (Chimney, brush, etc)	3 Medical Assist
4 Mutual Aid Calls	6 Misc. Calls (trees down, power lines, etc)	

The Orwell Fire Department has updated the Brush Truck with a new Skid Unit and Lights. As has often been said, the age of technology facilitates rapid advancements and improvements in all equipment, even more so in the Fire Protection Services. The Department thanks the Town and the Residents of Orwell for all the support through out the years and we look forward to doing our best to earn your continued support. We wish everyone in Orwell a Safe and Wonderful New Year.

Paul Metcalf
Chief

The 60 Plus Club of Orwell

Once again it has been a challenging year when making plans to meet for lunch. The first gathering for 2021 was in July. We then continued to meet once a month at the First Congregational Church of Orwell through the end of the year. We meet the third Wednesday of the month. Our group had several new attendees.

Each month two members co-host the meeting. It's their responsibility to set up the room, make the coffee, set up the room, decorate as they choose and offer a door prize. The First National Bank of Orwell continues to furnish the meat dish for the meal, Thank you so much.

Anyone 55 or older may attend. It's a great way to visit with your friends in town. Come join us. We have decided not to gather in January or February 2022 due to COVID.

Loretta Lee, Treasurer





Orwell First Response Squad
604 Main Street/ P.O Box 124
Orwell, Vermont 05760

Opening Balance January 1, 2022

Checking	711.03
Savings	38088.78
Total Opening Balances	38799.81

Receipts

Donations	1302.50
Interest Income	36.12
Total Receipt	1338.62

Total Receipts/Opening Balance 40138.43

Expenses Post Office Box	96.00
Squad Reimbursements	362.90
Fall Prevention donations	1656.94
Total Expenses	2115.84

Closing Balance December 31, 2020

Checking	1897.69
Savings	36124.9
Total	38022.59

Total Expenses and Closing Balances 40138.43

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Ochs, Co-Treasurer

Mary Miller, Co-Treasurer



Orwell First Response
604 Main Street/P.O. Box 124
Orwell, Vermont 05760

2021 was another challenging year for everyone. We were hoping that we would be getting back to some type of “normalcy” during 2021 but it did not come and now we ask ourselves what will “normal” be moving forward. Hoping 2022 will allow us to gather for continuing education and to have face to face meetings.

Orwell First Response was dispatched to the following calls

- 85 Medical
- 4 Fire/Standby
- 7 MotorVehicle/ATV accidents
- 3 Mutual Aid

Members 2021/2022

Peter Ochs, President
Joe Miller, Vice President
Mary Miller, Captain/Treasurer
Sandy Korda
Cian Quinn
Alex Kansky
Jessica Krol, Secretary
Louis Hall
Paul Metcalf

Volunteerism is at a low throughout Vermont and members are always needed. If you are interested in becoming a part of our team, please contact a member above.

The Members of Orwell First Response would like to Thank You all for your continued support.

Please Stay Safe & Healthy

Mary Miller, Captain

**Mountain View Cemetery Association
Annual Report 2021**

Beginning Balance-December 31, 2020

Checking	\$2,100.90
Savings	\$20,795.83

Total Opening Balances	<u>\$22,896.73</u>
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Receipts:

Town of Orwell	\$15,000.00
Trustee of Public Funds	\$827.98
Lot Sales	\$2,700.00
Perpetual Care	\$1,200.00
Markers	\$500.00
Misc	\$0.00
Interest Savings	\$22.79

Total Receipts	<u>\$20,250.77</u>
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Total Opening Balance & Receipts	<u>\$43,147.50</u>
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Disbursements:

Mowing- Mountain View	\$9,500.00
Mowing- Other Cemeteries	\$3,550.00
Brush Removal - Mt. View	\$660.00
Trustee of Public Funds	\$1,200.00
Gravestone Repairs - Mt. View	\$2,062.00
Flags	\$298.00
Brush Removal, etc @ Small Cemeteries	\$1,534.00
Misc	\$174.26
Deed Recording	\$90.00
Markers	\$420.00

Total Disbursements	<u>\$19,488.26</u>
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Closing Balances-December 31, 2021

Savings	\$22,818.62
Checking	\$840.62

Total Closing Balances	<u>\$23,659.24</u>
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Total Closing Balances & Disbursements	<u>\$43,147.50</u>
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Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Treasurer

Project Report

Another year has gone by again during the pandemic. During this time, it has meant that we, the Mountain View Cemetery Association have noticed, that many more family members have visited loved ones, or just came to the cemeteries to check out the history that they contain.

Mountain View Cemetery Association takes care of our cemetery, but as directed by the selectboard we oversee the smaller cemeteries in town, also. They include Lake View, North Orwell, Hack, and Coates.

Mowing and maintenance in all town cemeteries was done by Sam James and Brian Fowler and crew. They all did an amazing job to keep them in tip top shape during the challenging weather that last year brought that kept on giving!

Sam James and help, did a lot of brush cutting around the perimeters of Lake View Cemetery (located on Mud Dock Rd.) and Hack Cemetery (located on Fisher Rd.). Awesome job Sam!

Mountain View Cemetery Association had Artistic Memorials come in and repair ten grave stones that were in desperate need of help. We plan on doing some more grave stone repairs in all the town cemeteries, in the upcoming year. We had brush cleared on the northeast corner driveway in Mountain View Cemetery by Richard Gagnon and family. Joanne Hornbeck painted the vault door to match the stones.

Mountain View Cemetery board is sad to say that our leader and President, Steve Buxton, has decided not to seek reelection. Steve has dedicated thirty years of his life to be able to tell you where every lot is in the cemetery, and who is buried there. He has learned the sections on each map, sold lots to grieving families, embraced the history that is part of the cemetery, and has made sure that all jobs got done. We hope Steve with his expertise, will still be willing to help with our new digitizing of our maps project, and help us get a grasp on selling lots.

Mountain View Cemetery Association hopes that everyone takes the time, and visits all of our town cemeteries to see what has been done, and continues to be done to improve them. We, the board, would like to THANK YOU for all the support that we get.

Respectfully submitted,

Mountain View Cemetery Association



ORWELL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

12-31-21

The continuing pandemic resulted in the cancellation of the 2021 Orwell Memorial Day parade. We were able to organize a small ceremony on the town green with help from Mark Mordasky, Steve Buxton, Brock, Sara and Nate Quesnel and Fair Haven American Legion Post 49. The cancellation was a disappointment to the members of the committee and the community, but was necessary for the safety of everyone involved.

However, after discussions with the Orwell Select Board, another parade was organized for Sunday, Sept. 5th, 2021. It would become Orwell's first ever Labor Day Parade. Despite the late summer reschedule, it turned out to be well attended with familiar performers and organizations of years past, plus a few new surprises. Nearly everyone we spoke to were happy to have something 'normal' take place. We've always known how much the parade means to Orwell, but now it seemed to take on a new purpose as a sign of better times to come.

The committee looks forward to returning our parade to Memorial Day weekend 2022 and honoring the sacrifices made by our Veterans.

Please help us make the 2022 parade the best ever. We will need volunteers to assist along the parade route and at the ceremony on the town green after the parade. If you are interested, contact a committee member, message us through our facebook page or stop into the Orwell town office.

Thanks to the Orwell Fire Dept. and Orwell First Response Squad for traffic control in the village. Special Thank You to everyone who came out to support the parade in 2021.

George Macedo, Sue James, Ray Leonard, Andrea Ochs and Lisa Limoge
Orwell Parade Committee



The Town Green Committee held their first meeting in May of 2021. Committee members, appointed by the Select Board are: Joe Andriano, Andy Buxton, Rex Corey, Joanne Hornbeck, Kate Hunter, and Dan Werner. The committee was charged to recommend a comprehensive plan for the Village Green and to investigate cost and funding sources.

We began our work reviewing the general condition of the Green; the landscape, the trees, the bandstand, the war memorials, accessibility, and walkability to and within the Green. We searched for any grant opportunities and programs that might fit our needs.

One of our first efforts was to conduct a tree survey to obtain a general condition of the Green's trees. Chris Olson, the County Forester visited the Green in June and gave recommendations. The State (Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation) has a grant program - Communities Caring for Canopies that can be used for several initiatives pertaining to tree health and development. We decided to incorporate several of Mr. Olson's recommendations into a grant application. The application was submitted in late December to meet the January 7th deadline. Our grant application is for \$14,702 and requested \$5,000 in grant funds (the maximum amount available). The balance of the project cost (Town share) will be a combination of volunteer labor and general funds. The committee welcomes volunteers to come forward and help assist with the project. Our project includes conducting a comprehensive tree inventory, composting and mulching beneath the trees, hosting an educational experience with the Village School children, planting new trees, and contracting for tree canopy trimming. The grant award is expected this spring. We hope we are successful.

While checking into other grant opportunities we learned that a Municipal Planning Grant might be available. While it may not help with specifics within the Green, this planning grant can help garner community support with future planning efforts in the downtown area while incorporating the Green in that plan. A grant application was submitted and the Town recently received notice that we were successful.

The effort to move forward with a replacement bandstand began with a search for architectural services. The Town has contracted with Harris and Harris, Inc. of Lincoln, VT to assist us with project needs and development. Harris and Harris have documented and photographed the

existing structure for historical purposes. We have recently reviewed a floor plan of a new structure and they will begin elevation sketches soon.

The Green Committee is looking for volunteers to begin development of a not-for-profit organization to begin the fund-raising process for the new structure. If you have fund-raising skills and want to be a part of this valuable initiative for the Town, please contact a member of the committee.

As mentioned above, the Committee has identified accessibility and walkability issues as detriment to the function and enjoyment of the Green. We have discussed the possibility of a future Bike-Pedestrian Grant Application to VTrans to address some of these issues.

It has been a busy and rewarding first 8 months since the Committee was formed. We hope to bring pride and community enjoyment of our Green for all of us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Town Green Committee





ORWELL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOWN REPORT: 2021



As Vermont faces an ever-evolving global landscape of natural and man-made threats, coordinating the Town of Orwell's preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts is our sole purpose.

Orwell Emergency Management works at the behest and direction of the Orwell Selectmen, and in concert with our community's EMS, Fire and Town Road Crew to assist in coordination of manpower, and supplies, as well as the opening of a community shelter, should the need arise. OEM also works with our neighboring towns' mutual aid agencies, Vermont Emergency Management, as well as the Vermont Department of Health, as evident throughout the current pandemic.

Like you, we had high hopes that COVID-19 would be a thing of the past, but 2021 proved us all wrong. Despite the vaccine rollouts and other mitigation efforts, this insidious virus has continued to plague us. OEM spent a good part of 2021 sharing COVID safety precautions, testing and vaccination sites - via in-town signage and in our daily social media efforts. But, believe it or not - COVID wasn't the ONLY focus on our radar, as we also reported on impending seasonal storms, power outages, road hazards and closures, high heat dangers, freezing weather emergencies, and ongoing scam alerts.

In May of 2020, we installed four colorful *Community Share Sheds* against the ramp leading into the Orwell Free Library. They have been attended to by a dedicated group of individuals who keep them filled with books, magazines, games, puzzles, food and personal hygiene items. *Little did we know just how popular they would become!* In June of 2021, they were moved to a permanent location down

the Library parking lot - just beyond the green bottle and can donation shed, at the invitation of the Orwell Masonic Lodge,

Although the *Orwell Food Shelf* was established in December of 2020, it has continued to be a valuable year-round vital resource for many of our local residents. Located to the right as you enter Buxtons Store - in the bay window area, all of the items displayed are available for FREE and are easily identified by a red heart sticker in place of a price tag. The food shelf's slogan, of *"Take what you need; give what you can"* leans heavily on Orwell's long history of an independent, yet community supportive mindset. The incredible participation of our friends and neighbors only proves compassion lives deep within Orwell.

*Should anyone have any questions or comments,
please feel free to contact any one of us.*

Most Humbly Submitted,

Sandy Korda,

Emergency Management Director

Robert Arnebold,

Deputy Emergency Management Director

Alex Kansky,
Logistics Officer

Jess Krol,
Shelter Coordinator

To access our up-to-date postings on the Orwell Emergency Management and Orwell Community Network's Facebook pages, point your smartphone's camera or bar code reader at either of the "QR" codes and tap on your screen when instructed.

For Emergency and
Weather Notices



For Non-Emergent
Community Posting





Courtesy Robin Severy



Courtesy George Macedo

BIRTHS

Child	Mother	Date of Birth	Place	Father
Ross, Sven Ankjaer	Ankjaer-Jensen, Monika Mohs	1/19/2021	Middlebury	Ross, Seth Robert
Arnold, Aliya Lynn	Kyhill, Shannah Lynn	2/16/2021	Middlebury	Arnold, Jeremy Michael
Hanson, Emmett William	Hanson, Melissa Sue	8/27/2021	Burlington	Hanson, Raymond William
Oldenburg, Aurora Jane	Oldenburg, Lacie Marion	9/28/2021	Burlington	Oldenburg, Francis Kelly
Bachand, Jett Lawrence	Kaufmann, Amy Marie	10/13/2021	Rutland	Bachand II, Stephen John
Casey-Martin, Hazel June	Casey, Emily Claire	10/28/2021	Middlebury	Martin, Joshua David
Racine, Remi Rose	Racine, Samantha Rose	10/30/2021	Middlebury	Racine, Dylan Jeffery
Keyes, Brantley Scott	Milesi, Danielle Morgan	11/12/2021	Middlebury	Keyes, Brandon Scott

CIVIL MARRIAGE

		Date	Place	Residence
Smith, Dan Franklin	Bulbach, Stanley Walter	2/5/2021	Orwell	New York
Buckley, Edward Martin	Chahoc, Roberta Lyne	5/30/2021	Shoreham	Florida
Bain, David Haward	Fotheringill, Linda Marie	6/25/2021	Barnard	Orwell
Lowell, Devin Michael	Palin, Haley Maire	6/26/2021	Fair Haven	Orwell
Gagnon, Jessie L	Kehoe Jr., Earl J	6/30/2021	Rutland	Orwell
Mishoe, Jamilah Naimah	Hall, Stephen Matthew	9/14/2021	Bomoseen	Orwell
Lamontagne, David Roland	Lamontagne, Deborah Anne	10/16/2021	Middlebury	Orwell

DEATH

	Residence	Age	Date	Place
LaFlam, Audrey Anastasia	Orwell	84	4/4/2021	Rutland
LaDuc, Barbara Louise	Orwell	87	5/1/2021	Orwell
Oldenburg, James A Sr	Orwell	90	5/9/2021	Orwell
Roberts, Lydia W.	Orwell	86	7/16/2021	Orwell
Thomas, James D.	Orwell	87	8/14/2021	Middlebury
Obryk, Chester	Orwell	86	9/16/2021	Burlington
Curavoo, Larry Wayne	Orwell	62	9/26/2021	Rutland
Baker, Charles Otis	Orwell	70	11/27/2021	Rutland
McGuire, Ronald Robert	Orwell	73	12/1/2021	Middlebury

MEETING SCHEDULES

Town Boards and Organizations

Select Board: Second and fourth Monday of each month,

7:00 p.m. at the Orwell Town Office – 802-948-2032

Planning Commission/DRB: Third Wednesday of each month,

7:00 p.m. at the Orwell Town Office – 802-948-2032

Slate Valley Unified Union School District/SVUUSD: For meeting dates and times please visit the website at slatevalleyunified.org or call 802-265-4905

Fortnightly Club: Every other Tuesday from October to May [except January-February]

Meeting dates/locations to be determined – 802-948-2338

Independence Lodge #10: Second Tuesday of each month [except June, July and August],

7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall

Orwell Free Library: 802-948-2041 Orwellfreelibrary.org

Hours: Tuesday-11:00am to 7:00p.m.

Wednesday-3:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Thursday-3:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.

Friday-11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Saturday-9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Orwell Historical Society: Meeting dates/location to be determined.

President Kathy Buxton-802-948-2049

Sixty Plus Club: Third Wednesday of each month 12:00 Noon

at the First Congregational Church of Orwell

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

802-948-2032

TOWN GARAGE

802-948-2433

FIRE HOUSE

802-948-2392

CHURCHES

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ORWELL - every Sunday at 10:00a.m.

Dr. David Anderson, Pastor 802-948-2900

ABUNDANT LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH-Sunday Service at 10:30a.m.

Bill Welch, Pastor 802-770-4516

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - St. Paul's in Orwell - Sunday at 11:00a.m.

Father Kevin Chalifoux 802-265-3135